

the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. Amen.

Silence

Song

"O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

LUYH 903:2

LEADER Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping,

PEOPLE **that awake we may watch with Christ,
and asleep rest in his peace.**

*Benediction

LEADER May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.

PEOPLE **Amen.**

LEADER Let us bless the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

*Song

"By the Sea of Crystal"

LUYH 489

*Sharing the Peace

LEADER The peace of the Lord be with you always.

PEOPLE **And also with you.**

Pass the peace to those around you as you leave.

Vespers

A service of evening prayer at Covenant CRC



Welcome to Vespers.

This service of evening prayer will use liturgies from *The Book of Common Prayer* that lead us to pray and ponder through psalms, silence, songs, and meditation, and will act as a way to gather up the events and cares of our days in prayer.

Third Sunday of Easter

May 4, 2025

Words of Welcome

Opening Scripture *Matthew 11:28-29*

LEADER Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened,
and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and
learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart,
and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is
easy and my burden is light.

Silence

Song

"I Will Give You Rest" *LUYH 666*

*Greeting *Philippians 1:2*

LEADER Grace to you and peace from God our Father
and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

*Opening Sentences

LEADER Our help is in the name of the Lord;

PEOPLE **the maker of heaven and earth.**

LEADER It is good to give thanks to the Lord,

PEOPLE **to sing your praise, O Most High;**

LEADER to declare your steadfast love in the morning,

PEOPLE **and your faithfulness at night.**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

LEADER Blessed are you, O Lord, Redeemer God. You
destroyed the bonds of death and from the darkness
of the tomb drew forth the light of the world. You

The New Testament Reading *Revelation 5:11-14*

LEADER This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel Reading *John 21:1-19*

LEADER This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

Meditation: From Simon to Peter; from Resurrection to Rock

*Song of Response

"Will You Come and Follow Me" *LUYH 742:1,2,5*

The Prayers

Prayers of the People: Sharing our Joys & Concerns

The Lord's Prayer

PEOPLE **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy
name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our
daily bread and forgive us our debts as we for
give our debtors. And lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is
the kingdom and the power and glory forever.
Amen.**

LEADER Lord, hear our prayer;

PEOPLE **and let our cry come to you.**

Song

"O Lord, Hear My Prayer" *LUYH 903:1*

Collect

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or
weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who
sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless

PEOPLE **As it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be. Alleluia! Amen.**

The Psalm

Psalm 30

- 1 I will exalt you, Lord,
for you lifted me out of the depths
and did not let my enemies gloat over me.
- 2 **Lord my God, I called to you for help,
and you healed me.**
- 3 **You, Lord, brought me up from the realm of the dead;
you spared me from going down to the pit.**
- 4 Sing the praises of the Lord, you his faithful people;
praise his holy name.
- 5 For his anger lasts only a moment,
but his favor lasts a lifetime;
weeping may stay for the night,
but rejoicing comes in the morning.
- 6 **When I felt secure, I said,
“I will never be shaken.”**
- 7 **Lord, when you favored me,
you made my royal mountain stand firm;
but when you hid your face,
I was dismayed.**
- 8 To you, Lord, I called;
to the Lord I cried for mercy:
- 9 “What is gained if I am silenced,
if I go down to the pit?
Will the dust praise you?
Will it proclaim your faithfulness?
- 10 Hear, Lord, and be merciful to me;
Lord, be my help.”
- 11 **You turned my wailing into dancing;
you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,**
- 12 **that my heart may sing your praises and not be silent.
Lord my God, I will praise you forever.**

LEADER Glory be to the Father, and the to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit.

PEOPLE **As it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be. Alleluia! Amen.**

led us through the waters of death, and made us
children of light singing Alleluias and dancing to the
music of new life. Pour out your Spirit upon us that
dreams and visions bring us ever closer to the
kingdom of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. Through
him and in the Holy Spirit all glory be to you,
almighty God, this night and forever and ever.

*Easter Hymn

“Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing”

LUYH 206:1,2,4,5

Prayer of Confession

Silence

LEADER Most merciful God,
PEOPLE **we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Assurance

Psalm 103:11-12

LEADER For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is God’s steadfast love.
As far as the east is from the west,
so far does God remove our sins from us.

LEADER O God, make speed to save us.

PEOPLE **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

LEADER Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit.